

D+1 (conducted) cont
an ink filling hole formed in the first cover, the ink filling hole communicating with the second chamber; and

a pressure reduction hole formed in the first cover, the pressure reduction hole communicating with the first chamber, wherein the first chamber and the second chamber communicate with each other near the second surface inside the case such that the ink is filled in the first chamber through the second chamber from the ink filling hole.

D2
49. (Amended) The ink cartridge according to claim 46, wherein the ink filling hole and the pressure reduction hole are closed off by a first sealing material applied to the first cover; and

the ink discharge hole is closed off by a second sealing material applied to the second surface so that the second sealing material can be peeled away.

Sub E1
53. (Amended) An ink cartridge for holding ink supplied to a recording head, comprising:

D3
a case having a first surface on the outside of the case and a second surface on the outside of the case in opposition, the first and second surfaces are open;

a partitioning wall for separating the interior of the case into an ink chamber for holding ink and an atmosphere connection path communicating to the outside of the case, wherein the ink chamber is open on the first surface and the second surface sides; and

a first cover for covering the first surface of the case so that a path is formed for communicating between the ink chamber and the atmosphere connection path.

Sub E1
56. (Amended) An ink cartridge for holding ink supplied to a recording head, comprising:

D4
a cartridge case having a first side wall and a second side wall opposed to the first side wall;

a first partitioning wall positioned substantially parallel to the first side wall of the case so as to separate the interior of the cartridge case into a first chamber and a second chamber for respectively accommodating ink; and

*Aut
F1
cont*
*D4
(concluded)*

a second partitioning wall positioned substantially parallel to the first side wall of the case for separating the interior of the case into the first chamber and an atmosphere connection path for communicating with an atmosphere outside the case, wherein one end of the second chamber communicates with one end of the first chamber, one end of the atmosphere connection path communicates with the other end of the first chamber and the other end of the atmosphere connection path is open to the outside of the case.

57. (Amended) The ink cartridge according to claim 56, wherein the atmosphere connection path is formed between the first side wall and the second partitioning wall, and the second chamber is formed between the second side wall and the first partitioning wall.

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F1
cont*
D5

60. (Amended) The ink cartridge according to claim 57, further comprising, inside the case, a third partitioning wall that is joined to the lower ends of the first partitioning wall and the second partitioning wall while extending in a direction substantially perpendicular to the first side wall, wherein the first chamber is divided by the second and third partitioning walls, and a connecting hole for connecting the first and second chambers is formed in the third partitioning wall.

*Aut
F1
cont*
D6

62. (Amended) An ink cartridge removably attached to a recording head for holding ink supplied to the recording head, comprising:

a cartridge case having an upper case surface on the outside of the case and a lower case surface on the outside of the case;

a partitioning wall for dividing the inside of the case into a first chamber and a second chamber for accommodating ink, respectively, wherein the first chamber and the second chamber mutually communicate with each other near the lower case surface;

a hole formed in the upper case surface, the hole communicating with the second chamber such that the ink is filled in the first chamber through the second chamber from the ink filling hole;

an ink supply hole for supplying ink to the recording head from the second chamber, formed in the lower case surface; and

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an atmosphere connection hole formed in the upper case surface for connecting the first chamber to an atmosphere outside of the cartridge, wherein the second chamber is formed between one side wall of the case and the partitioning wall and at least one portion of the one side wall is transparent or semi-transparent.

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66. (Amended) An ink cartridge for holding ink, comprising:

a cartridge case having an upper case surface on the outside of the case and a lower case surface on the outside of the case;

a partitioning wall for separating the interior of the cartridge case into a first chamber for holding ink and an atmosphere connection chamber for communicating with an atmosphere outside the case on the upper case surface, one end of the wall is joined to the upper case surface; and

a path for connecting the first chamber and the atmosphere connection chamber, formed in the upper case surface, wherein the path and the first chamber are connected via a surface which does not contain an intersection line formed by the intersection of two surfaces.

✓ Please add new claims 69 and 70 as follows:

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--69. The ink cartridge according to claim 53, further comprising:

a second cover for covering the second surface of the case; and

an ink supply hole joined to the recording head, formed in the second cover so as to communicate with the ink chamber.--

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--70. The ink cartridge according to claim 69, wherein the first chamber communicates with the atmosphere connection path near the first surface, and communicates with the second chamber near the second surface, and the second chamber communicates with the ink supply hole.--